

**Live fast and die young:  
Massive, exploding, and speeding stars**

**Mathieu Renzo**

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## MfA community norms

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- Stay Curious – **do interrupt with questions!**
- Work Together/Collegiality – **science is a team effort!**
- Stay Fully Present (use devices only when needed)
- Actively Listen to Understand
- Invite and welcome contributions from everyone

credits: U. Shah



Santa Barbara



Amsterdam



New York



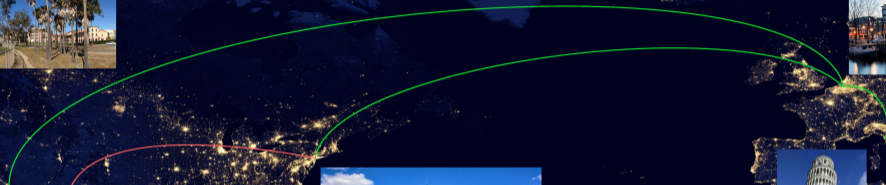
Pisa



Tucson

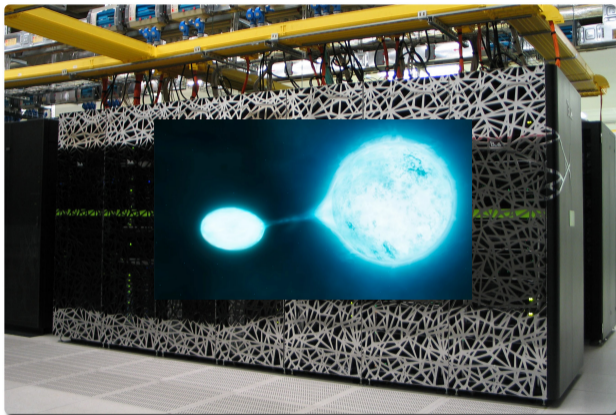


Empoli



# I am a theoretical and computational astrophysicist

Theory +



Dutch national supercomputer Cartesius

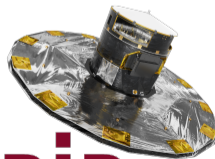
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Numerical Simulations 4

## My main goals today

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1. Share my research
2. Experiment together with high-school teachers
  - Connect research, outreach, and education
  - Leverage **open science**



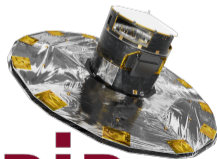
**gaia**

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Q. *What would you want from researchers?*

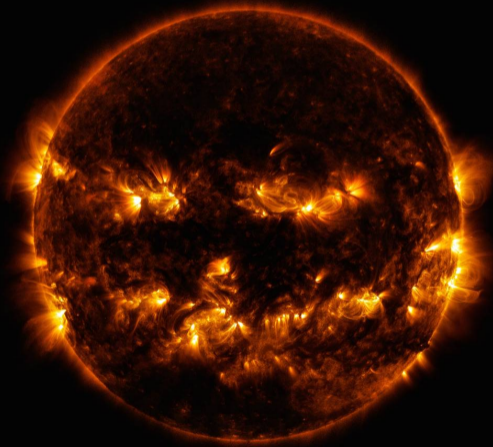


**gaia**

# Stellar evolution quickstart

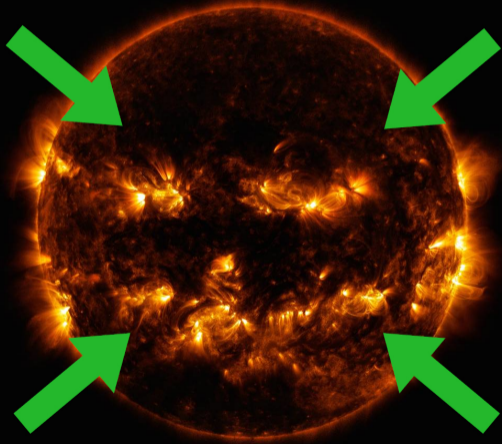
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# The nearest star to us is the Sun



- Current age  $\sim 4.5 \cdot 10^9$  yr
- Expected lifetime  $\sim 10^{10}$  yr
- $L_{\odot} \simeq 4 \cdot 10^{33}$  erg s $^{-1}$
- $M_{\odot} \simeq 2 \cdot 10^{33}$  g  $\simeq 10^4 M_{\text{J}} \sim 3 \cdot 10^5 M_{\oplus}$
- $R_{\odot} \simeq 6.95 \cdot 10^{10}$  cm

# Stars are large balls of matter that “resist” their own weight

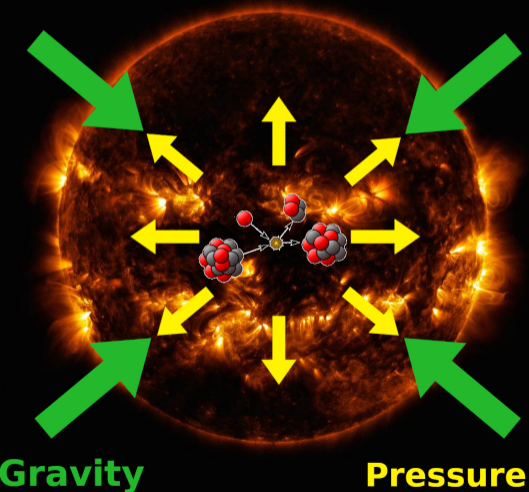


**Gravity**

Pushing against gravity  
costs energy

Energy leaks as  $\gamma$  (and  $\nu$ )

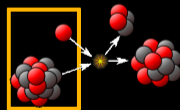
# Stars produce their own energy by nuclear fusion



Pushing against gravity  
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Energy leaks as  $\gamma$  (and  $\nu$ )

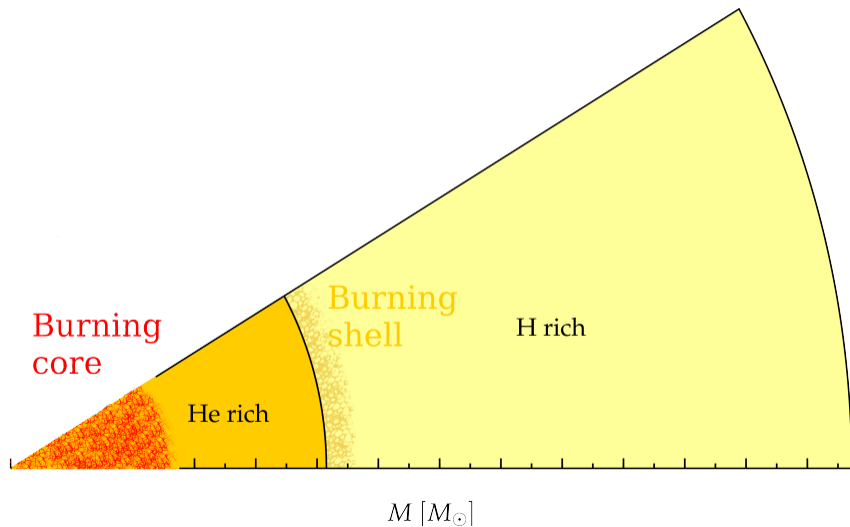
To compensate,  
stars produce energy by  
**nuclear fusion**



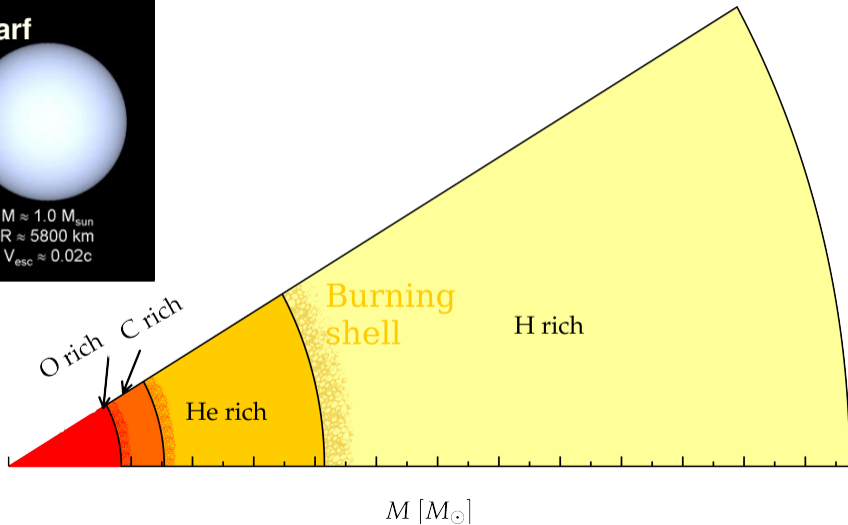
When they run out of “fuel”  
and are forced to evolve



## Core burns heavier fuel, shells burn the leftovers

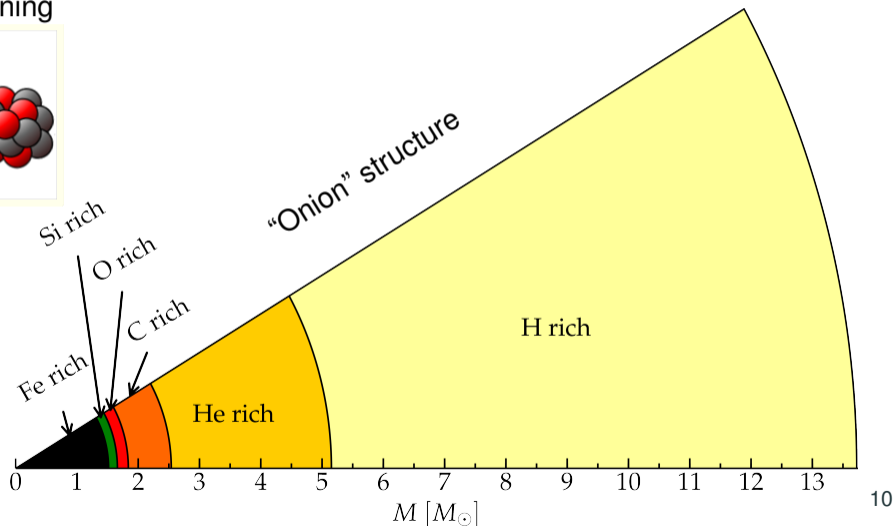
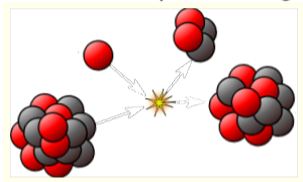


## Core burns heavier fuel, shells burn the leftovers



## Massive stars burn until Iron, then gravity wins

Fusion of Iron **costs** energy:  
the star stops burning



# Supernova explosion: the birth Neutron Stars or Black Holes

## Why massive stars? ( $M_{\text{initial}} \gtrsim 7.5 M_{\odot}$ )



**$\zeta$  Ophiuchi is the nearest massive star to Earth**

# They are the progenitors of neutron stars & black holes



NS, BH

&

gravitational waves

*EM:*

O'Connor & Ott 2011, Ertl *et al.* 2016, 2020, Farmer *et al.* 2016, Morozova *et al.* 2015, 2016, Renzo *et al.* 2017, 2020a, b, c, Laplace *et al.* 2021, Vartanyan *et al.* 2021, Zapartas *et al.* 2017a, 2019, 2021a, b, Marchant *et al.* 2019, Farmer *et al.* 2019, 2020

*GW:*

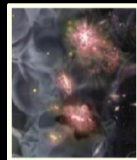
LVK collaboration 2015-23, Vigna-Gómez *et al.* 2018, van Son *et al.* 2020, 2021, Callister, Renzo, Farr 2021, Renzo *et al.* 2021



# They shape their environment & the Universe as a whole



NS, BH  
&  
gravitational waves

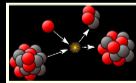


Ionizing radiation

*Stellar feedback*

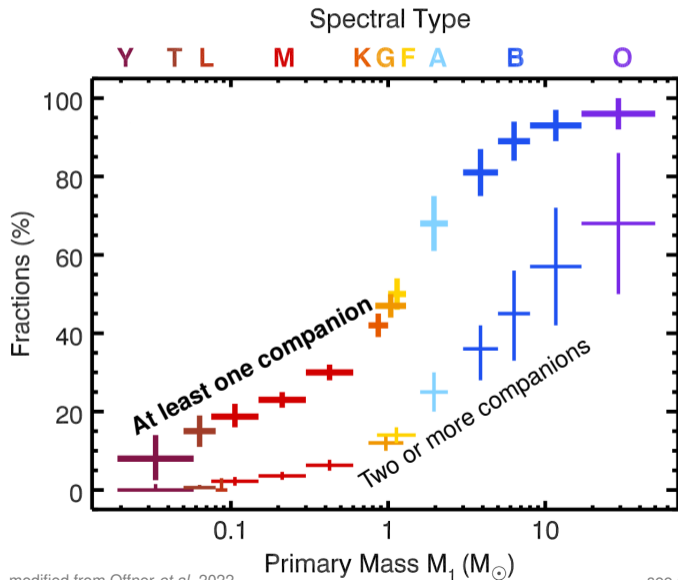


Star Formation  
& cluster evolution



Nucleosynthesis &  
chemical evolution

# Most massive stars are born with companion(s)



Binary interactions  
are **common**



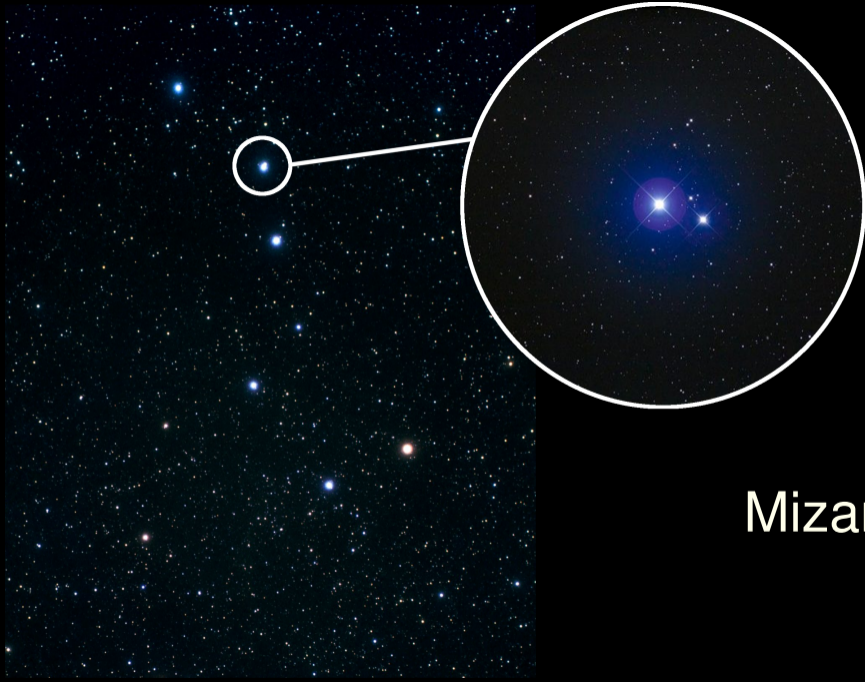
70% of massive stars

Sana *et al.* 2012

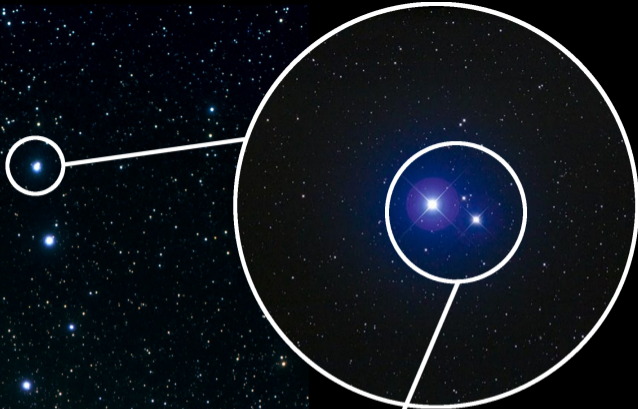




The big dipper

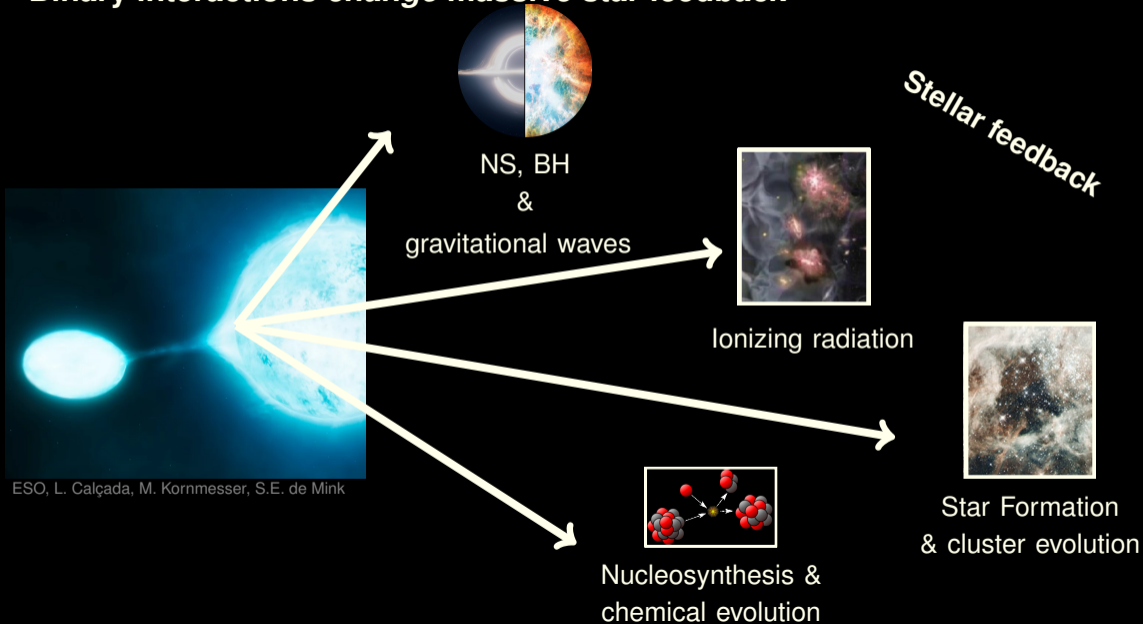


Mizar & Alcor

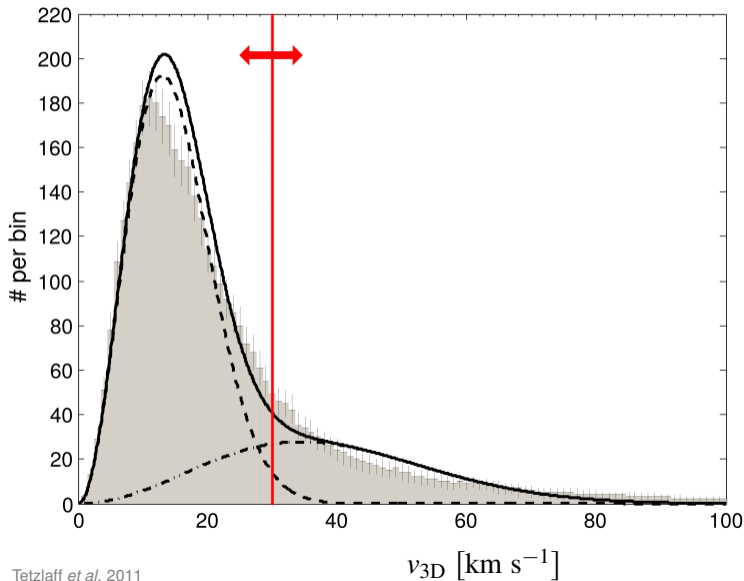


**Most stars are in binaries  
or multiple systems**

# Binary interactions *change* massive star feedback



## Stars move through their host galaxy: peculiar motion on top of orbit

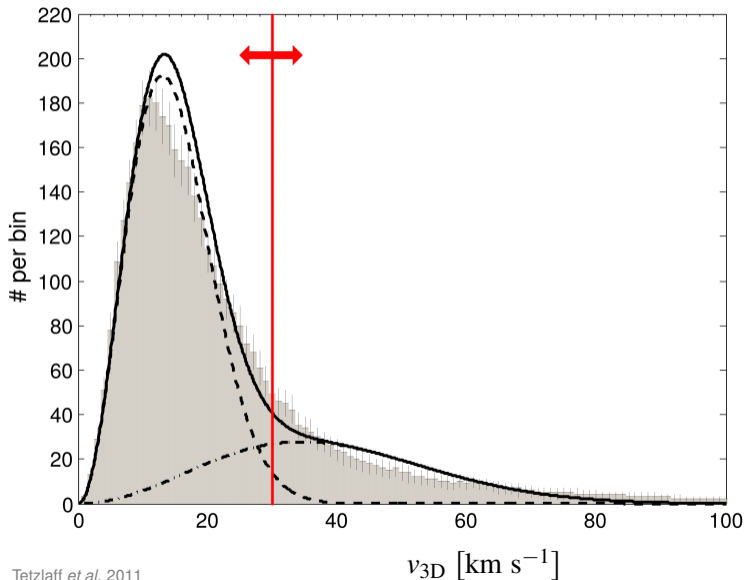


**Runaways are the tail**

Typically have fewer companions

Blaauw 61

## Runaway stars are common among massive stars



**Runaways are the tail**

Typically have fewer companions

Blaauw 61

**Observed fraction**

$M \gtrsim 15 M_{\odot}$ ,  $\sim 10 - 20\%$

## How to measure stellar velocities ?

---

# How to measure stellar velocities

⇐ Special features

(if relatively nearby)



“Bow shock”

$$v > c_s$$

“Bow wave”

$$v_{\text{boat}} > v_{\text{wave}}$$





# How to measure stellar velocities



⇐ Special features

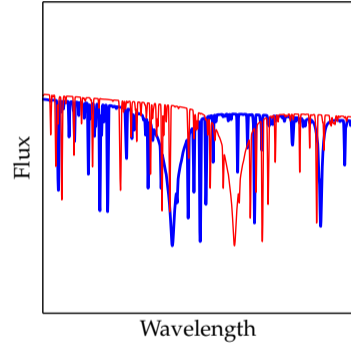
(if relatively nearby)

Radial velocities

(Doppler shift)



⇒



# How to measure stellar velocities



⇐ Special features

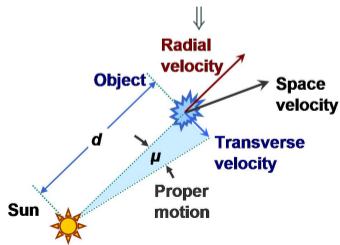
(if relatively nearby)

Radial velocities

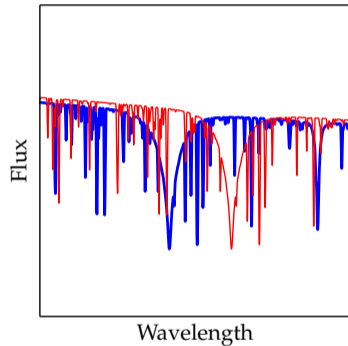
(Doppler shift)

Proper motions

(if distance known)



⇒



# Measuring distances is one of the most difficult things in astrophysics

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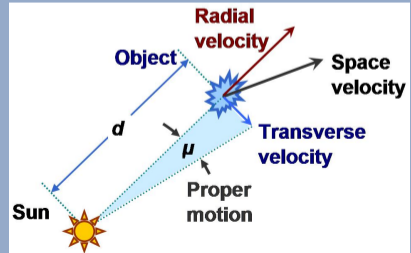
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# Measuring distances is one of the most difficult things in astrophysics



# Angular velocity + parallax = projected physical velocity



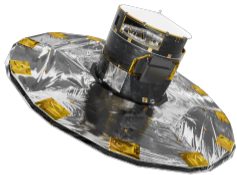
## A “renaissance” of stellar physics

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driven by the *Gaia* space-telescope

## Gaia scans the sky to measure $d$ and $v$ of 10s of billions of stars

<https://flathub.flatironinstitute.org/gaiadr3>



# gaia

- Distance  $\leftrightarrow$  parallax
  - Velocities  $\leftrightarrow$  pm and RV
- ⇓

**Enables lots of astrophysics**

Credits: New Scientist/ESA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BT0Xh1BizSI>



## Apparent motion

reflection of Earth's orbit around the Sun

## Long term drift

Stars' orbit around Galaxy + intrinsic motion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-jhyRIupY4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cEsfqFDSpm0>

*Gaia* requires multiple years of observations

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**Mission Elapsed Time**

09:05:11:05:55:38

YRS HRS DAYS HRS MINS SECS

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## Why some star “run”?

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- **Binary SuperNova Scenario (BSN)**
- **Dynamical Ejection Scenario (DES)**

# BSN: the most common massive binary evolution path

Credits: ESO, L. Calçada, M. Kornmesser, S.E. de Mink — <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDDjEkGjV9U>

# Mass transfer occurs before the 1<sup>st</sup> explosion

- **Spin-up**

Packet 1981, Cantiello *et al.* 2007, de Mink *et al.* 2013, Renzo & Götzberg 2021

- **Pollution**

Blaauw 1993, Renzo & Götzberg 2021

- **Rejuvenation**

Hellings 1983, 1985, Renzo *et al.* 2023



**The “widowed” star carries signatures of its past in a binary**

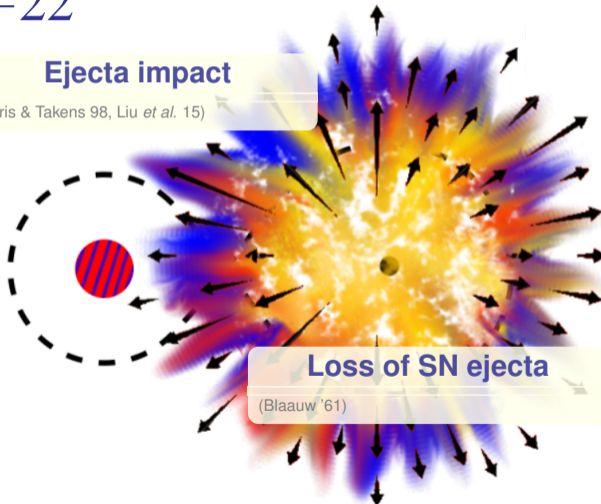
Renzo & Zapartas 2020

## What exactly disrupts the binary?

$86^{+11}_{-22}\%$  of massive binaries are disrupted

### Ejecta impact

(Tauris & Takens 98, Liu *et al.* 15)



### Loss of SN ejecta

(Blaauw '61)

# What exactly disrupts the binary?

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## Ejecta impact

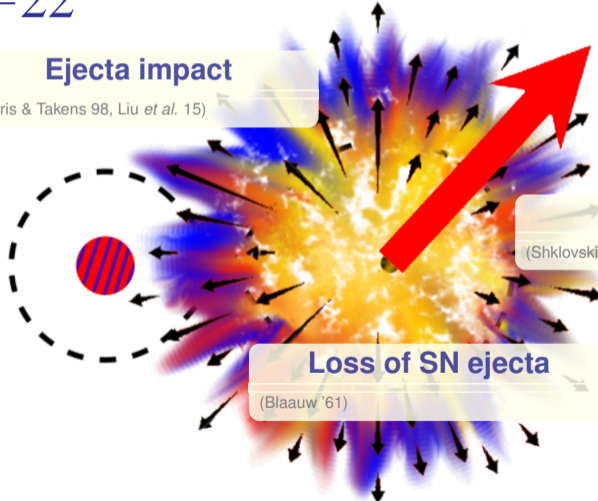
(Tauris & Takens 98, Liu *et al.* 15)

## SN Natal kick

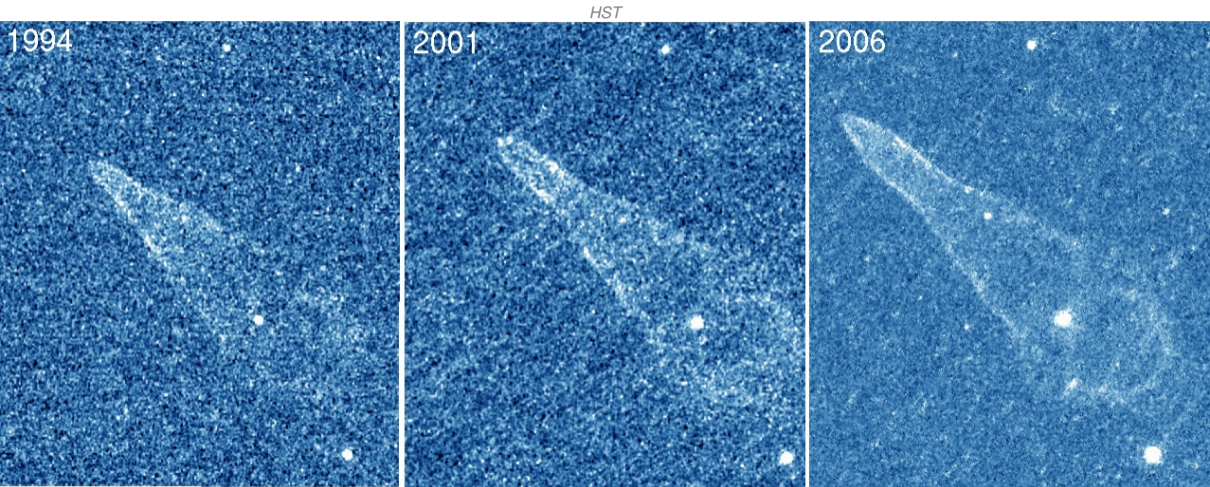
(Shklovskii 70, Katz 75, Janka 13, 17)

## Loss of SN ejecta

(Blaauw '61)

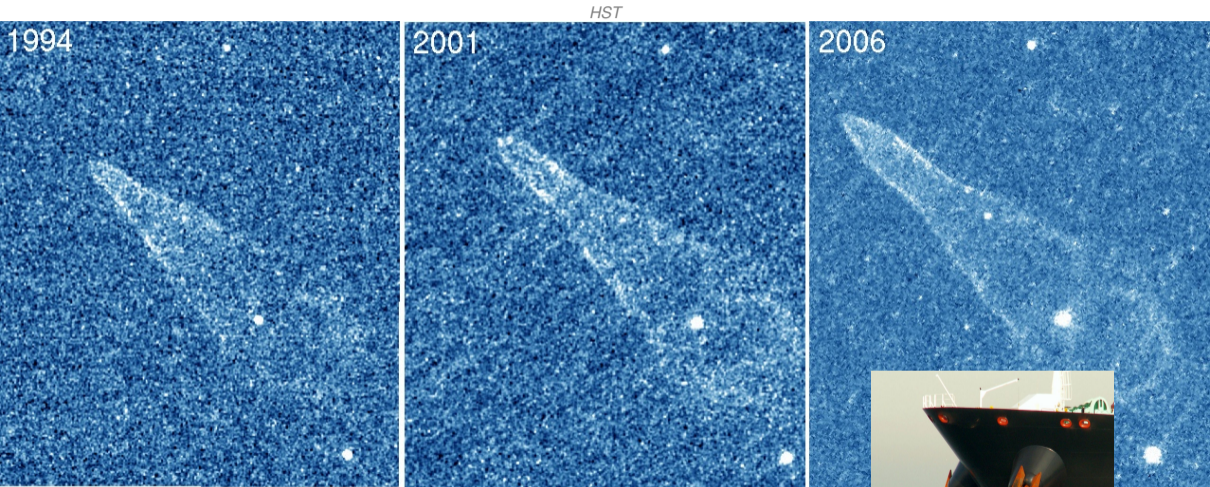


## Why kicks? Neutron stars are usually faster than their progenitor stars



“Guitar nebula”:  $v_{\text{NS}} \simeq 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

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“Guitar nebula”:  $v_{\text{NS}} \simeq 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$



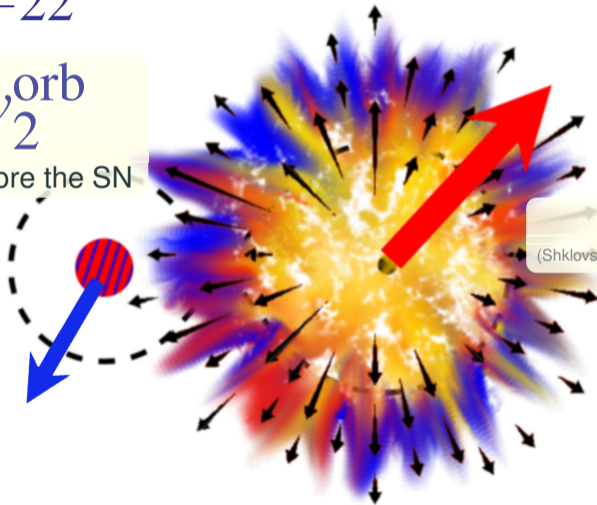


## Kicks do not change companion velocity

$86^{+11}_{-22}\%$  of massive binaries are disrupted

$$v_{\text{dis}} \simeq v_{\text{orb}}^{\text{orb}}$$

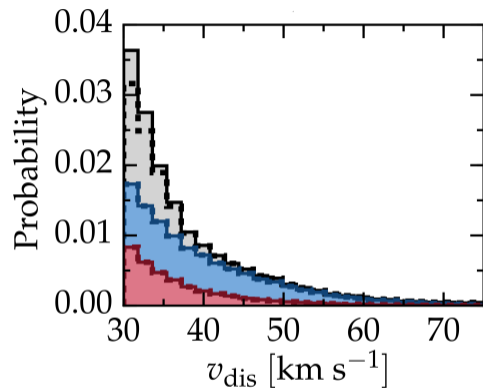
before the SN



**SN Natal kick**

(Shklovskii 70, Katz 75, Janka 13, 17)

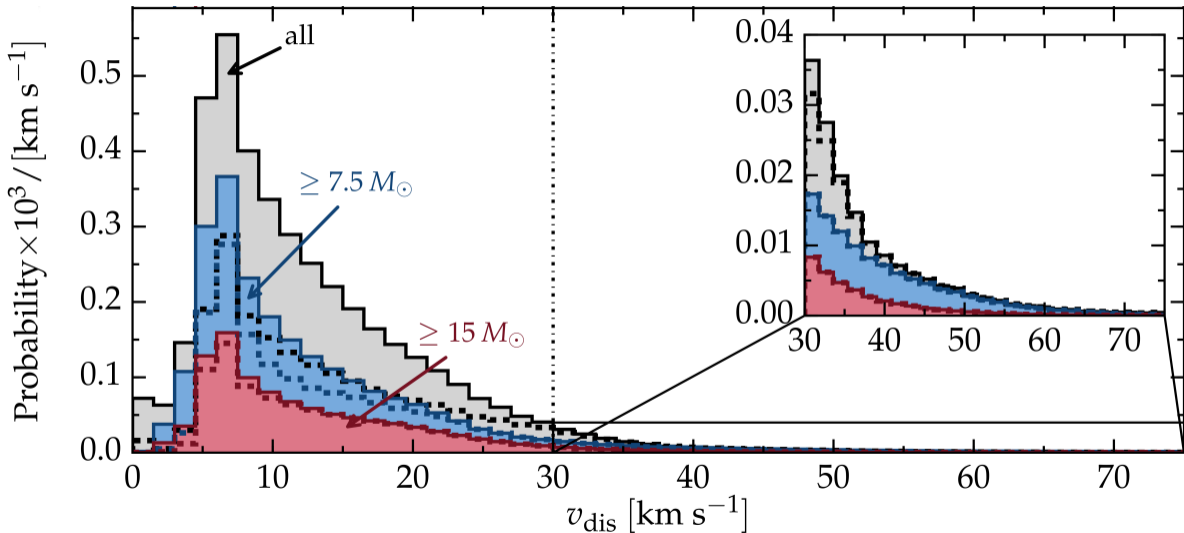
## Accretor stars can be *runaways*...



Velocity w.r.t. pre-explosion binary center of mass

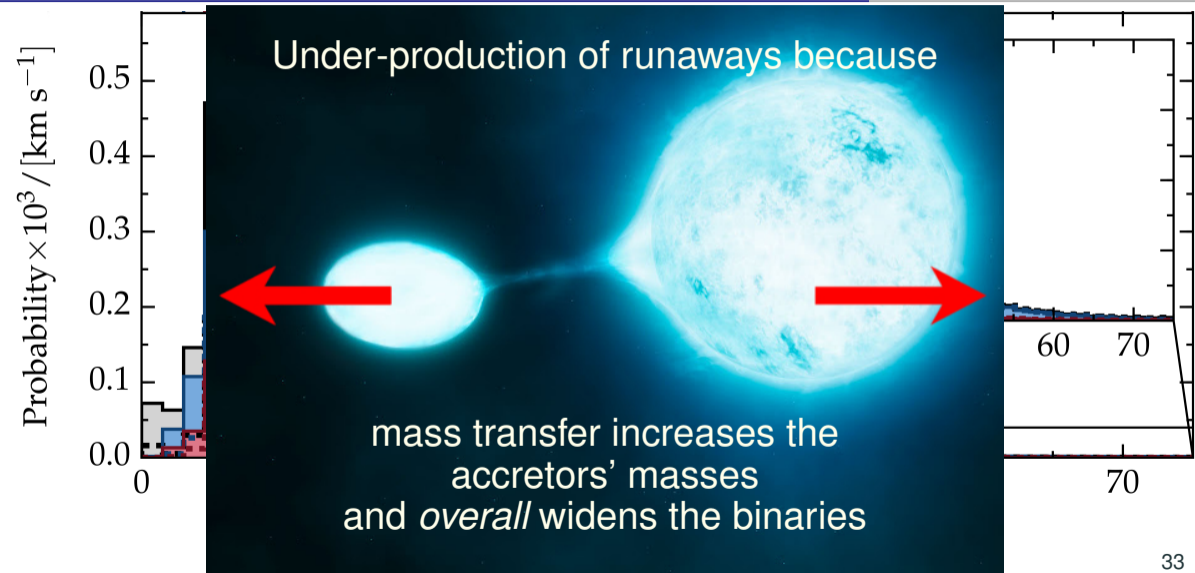
Numerical results: <http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/qcat?J/A+A/624/A66>

...but most are only *walkaways*



Velocity w.r.t. pre-explosion binary center of mass

...but most are only *walkaways*



# Constrain BSN with the nearest massive star to Earth



Walker *et al.* 1979,  
Herrero *et al.* 1994,  
van Rensbergen *et al.* 1996,  
Hoogerwerf *et al.* 2001,  
Villamariz & Herrero 2005,  
Walker & Koushnik 2005,  
Zee *et al.* 2018,  
Gordon *et al.* 2018,  
Neuhäuser *et al.* 2019, 2020,  
Renzo & Götzberg 2021,  
Shepard *et al.* 2022

# Constrain BSN with the nearest massive star to Earth

## Observational constraints of $\zeta$ Oph.:

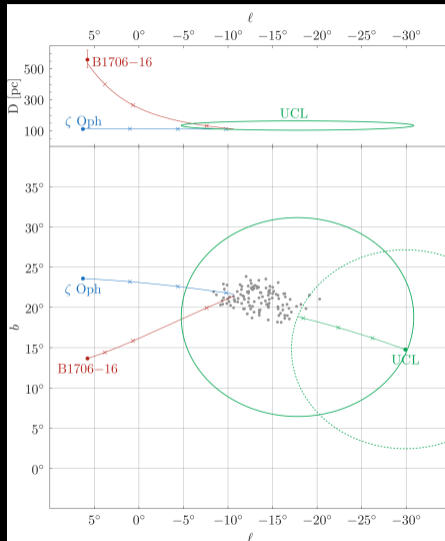
- distance  $\simeq 107 \pm 4$  pc
- total mass  $\simeq 20 M_{\odot}$
- speed  $\gtrsim 30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
- rotation  $v \sin(i) \gtrsim 310$
- inclination  $i \gtrsim 56^{\circ}$
- “looks” ( $T_{\text{eff}}, L$ )
- age  $\simeq 8$  Myr
- strange surface composition

## **X Rotating single stars**

(e.g., van Rensbergen *et al.* 96, Howarth & Smith 01, Villamariz & Herrero 05)

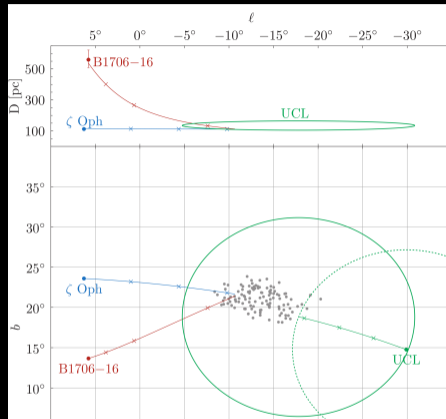
Walker *et al.* 1979,  
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Hoogerwerf *et al.* 2001,  
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Zee *et al.* 2018,  
Gordon *et al.* 2018,  
Neuhäuser *et al.* 2019, 2020,  
Renzo & Götzberg 2021,  
Shepard *et al.* 2022

# $\zeta$ Ophiuchi is single but we can trace it back to a neutron star



Neuhäuser *et al.* 2019, 2020 see also Blaauw 1952, 1961,  
van Rensbergen *et al.* 1996, Hoogerwerf *et al.* 2001, Lux *et al.* 2020

# $\zeta$ Ophiuchi is single but we can trace it back to a neutron star



**SN explosion  $\sim 1.78 \pm 0.21$  Myr ago**

$\Rightarrow$  Radioactive iron rain on Earth

Benitez *et al.* 2002, Fry *et al.* 2016, Neuhäuser *et al.* 2020



## Why some star “run”?

---

- Binary SuperNova Scenario (BSN)
- **Dynamical Ejection Scenario (DES)**

**Most stars are born in dense environments**



# Most stars are born in dense environments

## N-body interactions

(typically) least massive thrown out.

**Binaries matter...**

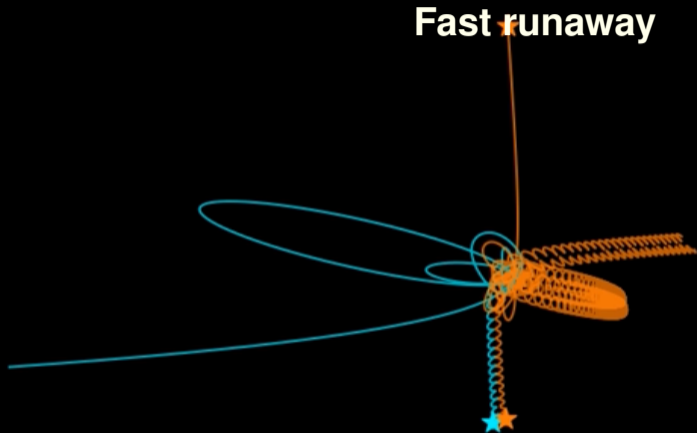
- Cross section  $\propto a^2 \gg R_*^2$
- (Binding) Energy reservoir

*Poveda et al. 67*

**...but don't necessarily leave imprints!**

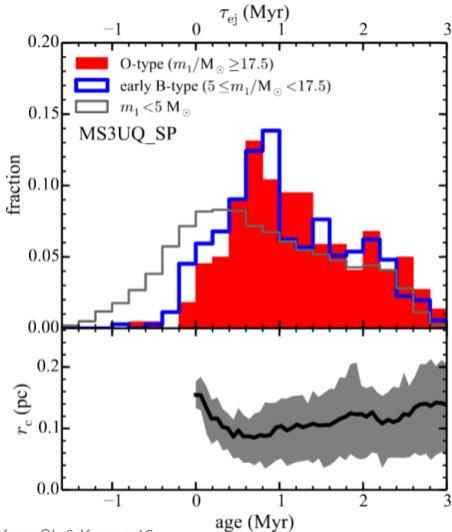
**DES:** typically eject the lowest mass star

## Typical outcome of dynamical interactions



**Tighter and more massive binary**

# Timing of ejection



Most ejections happen early  
Before the first stellar death

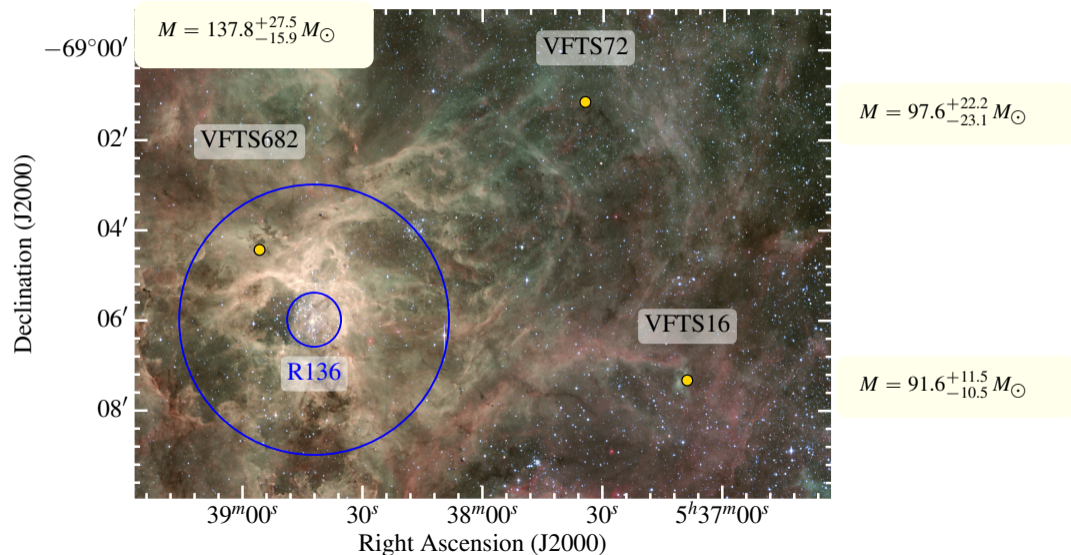
$$\tau_{ej} < \tau_*$$

Very sensitive to initial conditions

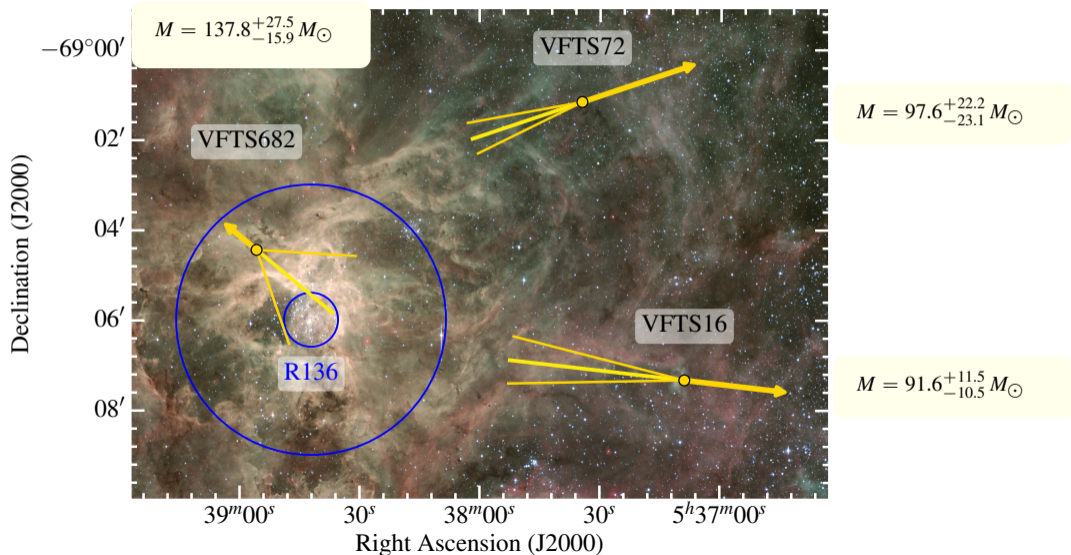
from Oh & Kroupa 16,

see also, Poveda *et al.* 64, Fujii & Portegies-Zwart 11, Banerjee *et al.* 12, 14

# The most massive runaways known

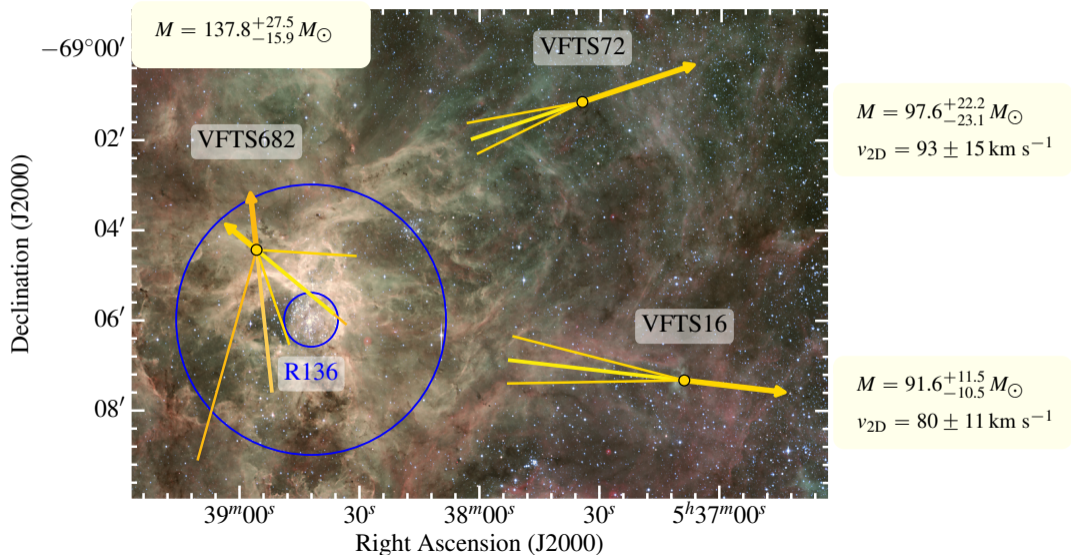


# The most massive runaways known

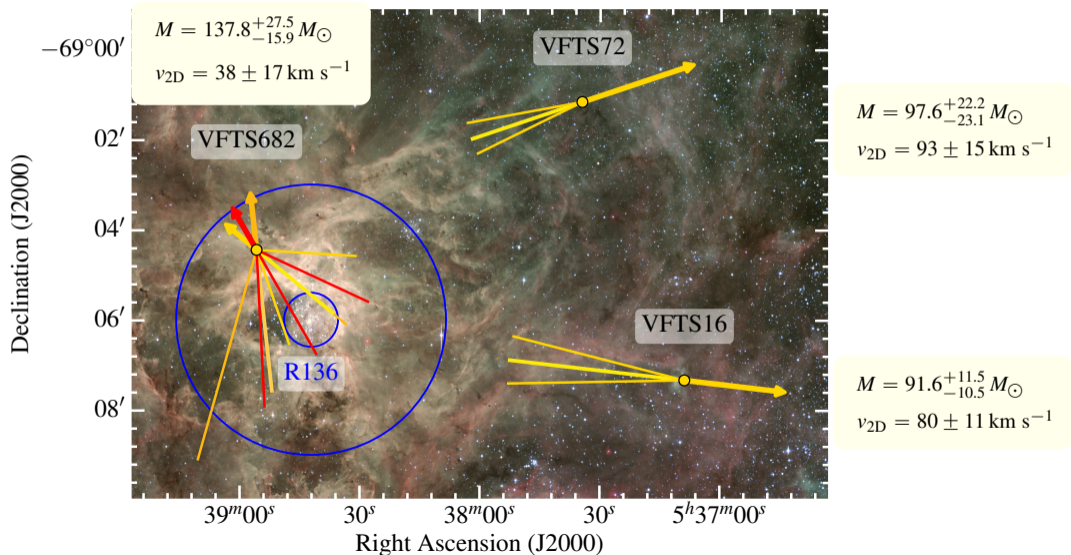




# The most massive runaways known



# The most massive runaways known



# Summary of ejection mechanisms

## Dynamical ejections

- Happen before SNe
- Can produce higher velocities
- Least massive thrown out
- *Gaia* hint: high efficiency

...Binaries are still important! but might not leave signature



## Binary SN disruption

- Most binaries are disrupted
- Determined by SN kick
- Ejects accretor
- $v \simeq v_2^{\text{orb}}$  typically slow
- Leaves **binary signature**  
spin up, pollution, rejuvenation



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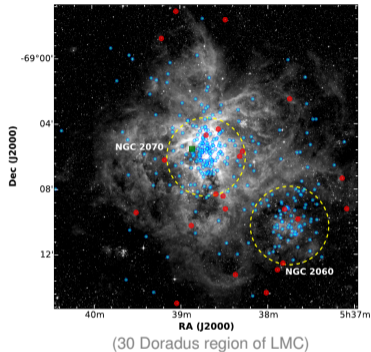


Relative efficiency ?

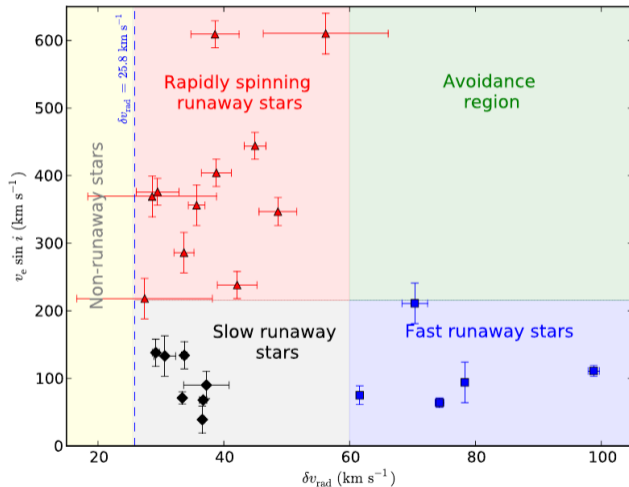
Hoogerwerf *et al.* 2001, Jilinski *et al.* 2010, Sana *et al.* 2023



# Both mechanism at play in the same population

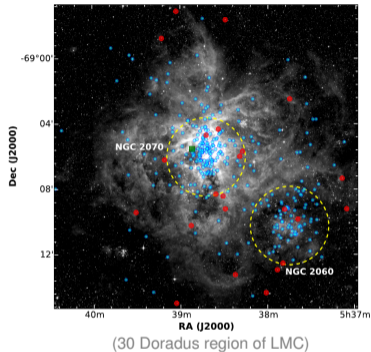


Projected rotational velocity



Line-of-sight velocity

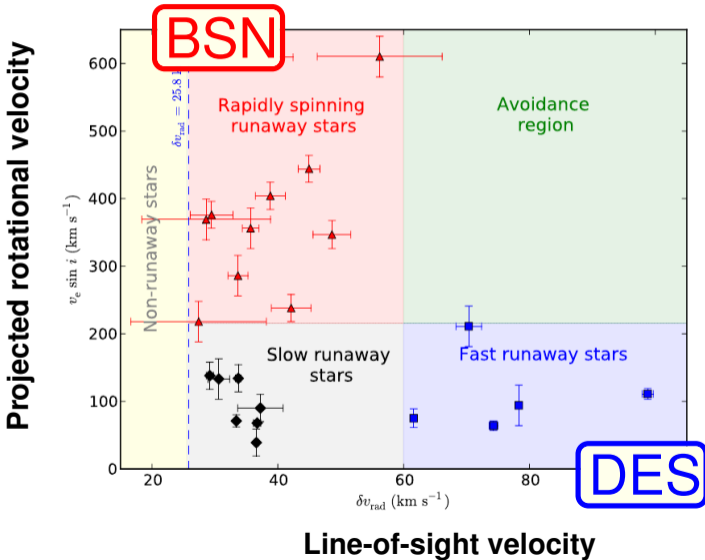
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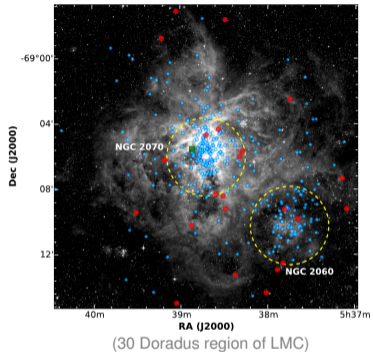
General conclusion

or

lucky age of 30 Doradus ?



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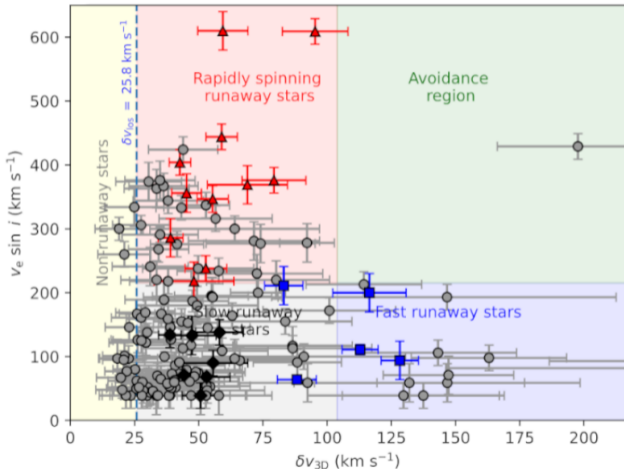


General conclusion

or

lucky age of 30 Doradus ?

Projected rotational velocity



3D velocity

## Conclusions

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## *Gaia* “renaissance” of stellar physics $\Rightarrow$ **wide** implications for astro

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**Runaways:** many massive stars are fast  $v \gtrsim 30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

Two mechanisms for  $v \lesssim$  hundreds of  $\text{km s}^{-1}$ :

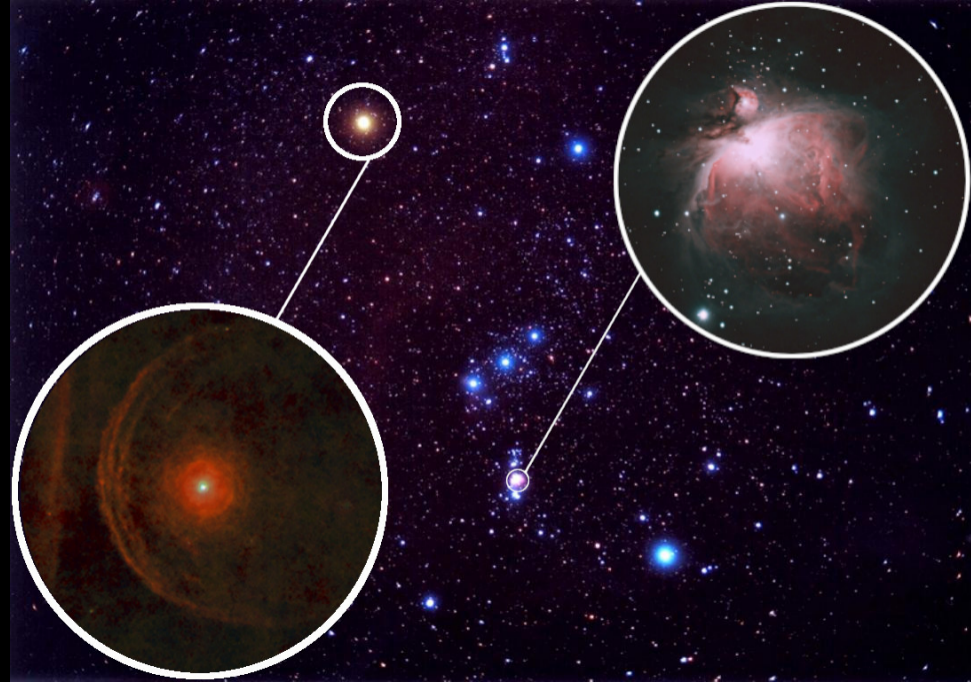
- **BSN** Supernova explosion in a binary
- **DES** Dynamical ejection from clusters

A wide-field photograph of a starry night sky. The background is a deep, dark blue-black, densely populated with stars of various colors and magnitudes. A prominent, bright yellow-orange star is located in the upper-left quadrant. A diagonal line of several bright blue stars runs from the lower-left towards the upper-right. Other notable stars include a bright blue star in the lower-right and a bright white star in the center-right. The overall scene is a rich field of stars, likely representing a star cluster or a deep-sky view of a constellation.

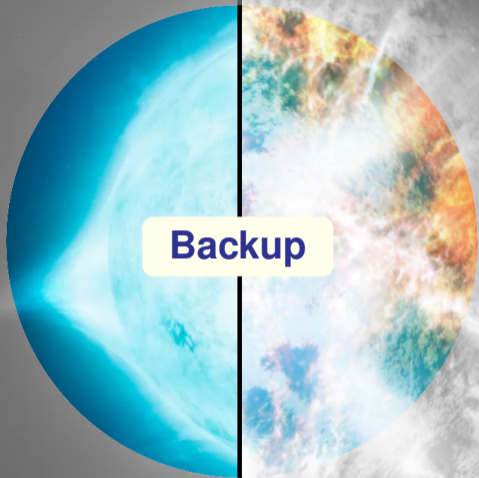
Orion

Orion



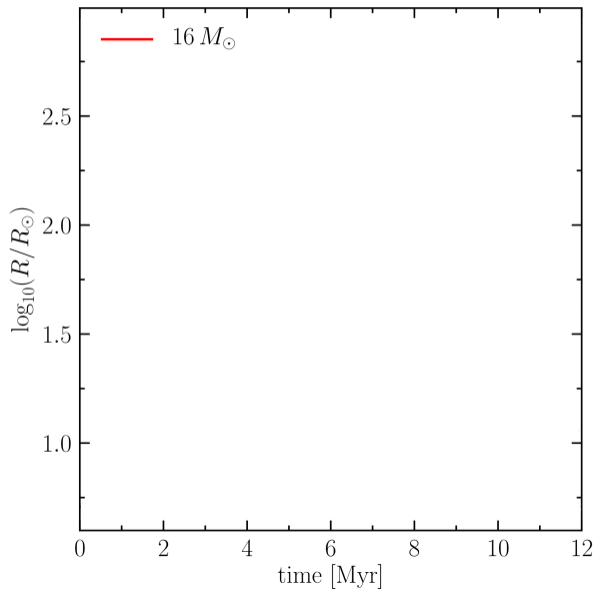


Orion

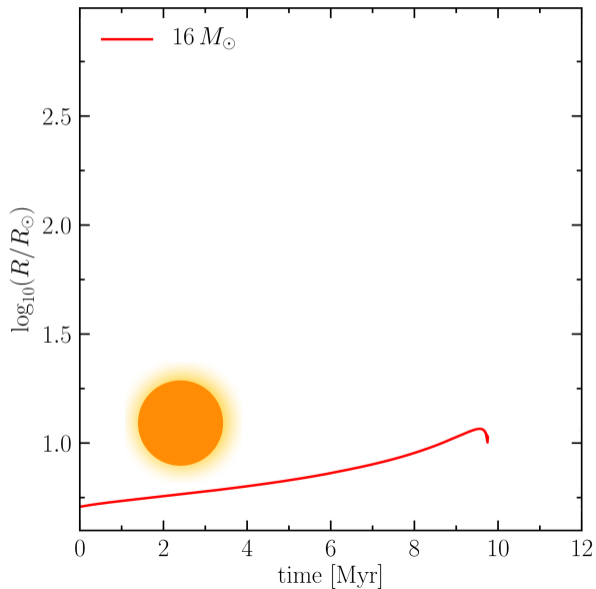


**Backup**

## Stars are like people: they get bigger as they grow

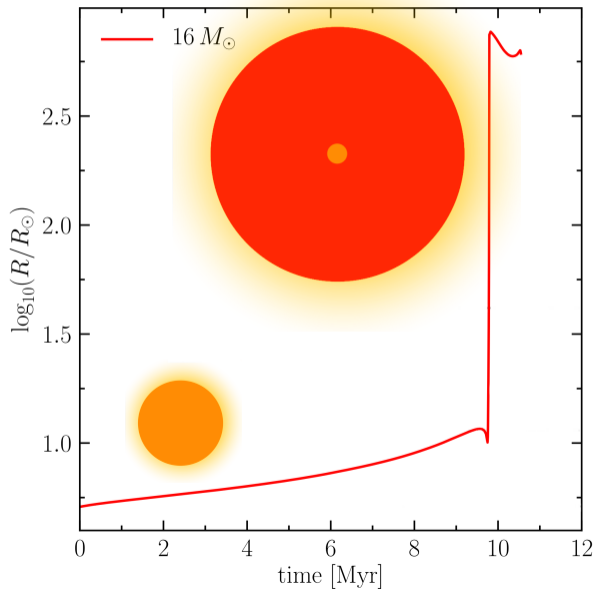


## Stars are like people: they get bigger as they grow



**Main sequence:**  
H  $\rightarrow$  He, 90% of stellar lifetime

## Stars are like people: they get bigger as they grow



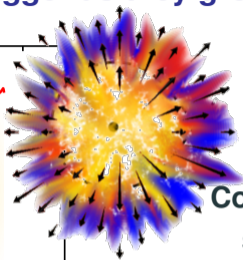
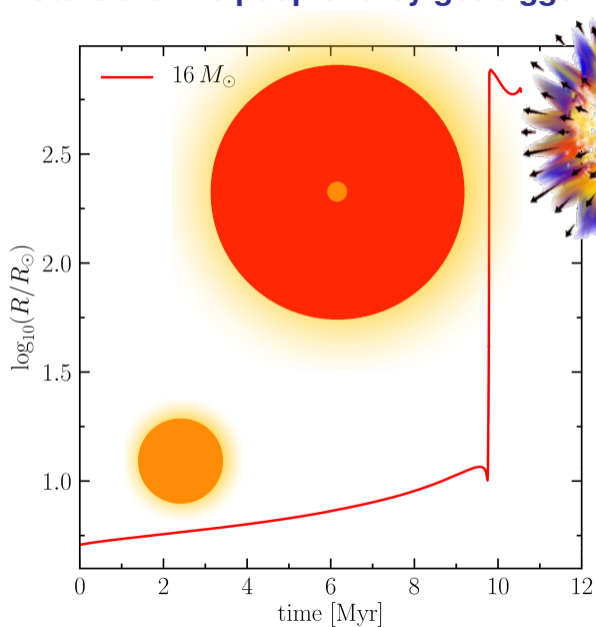
**Red (super) giant:**  
Core+shell burning, 10% of stellar  
lifetime

Simulation output from

**MESA**



## Stars are like people: they get bigger as they grow



**Core collapse and possibly  
supernova explosion:**

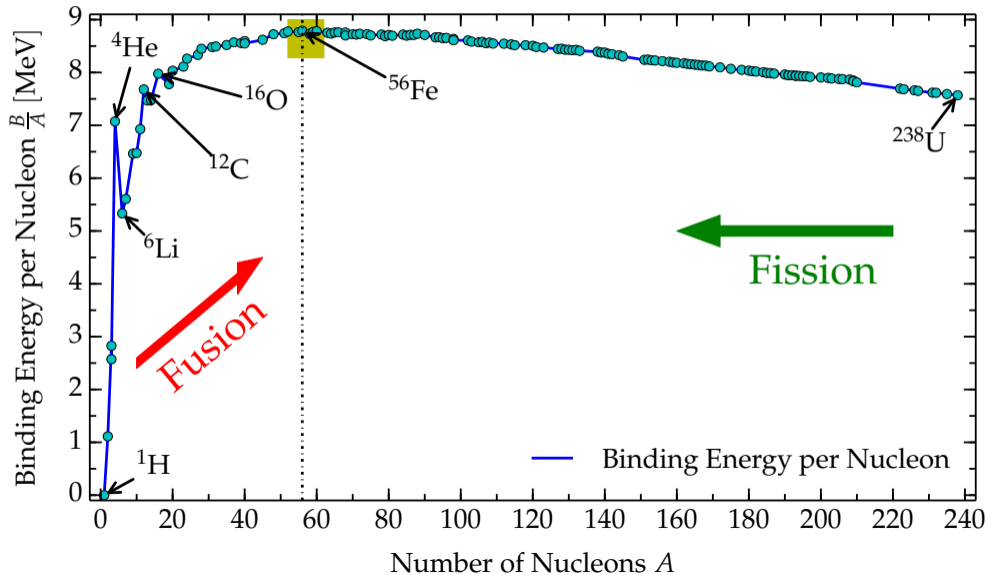
$$\tau(M) \propto M^{-\alpha} \simeq 3 - 50 \text{ Myr}$$

for  $M \gtrsim 7.5 M_{\odot}$ , e.g., Zapartas et al. 2017

Simulation output from

**MESA**

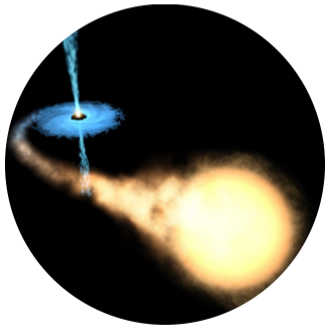
## Nuclear specific binding energy



## Do BHs receive kicks?

NO

⇒ most remain bound to companion



YES

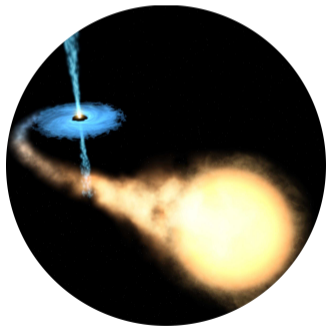
⇒ most are single and we can't see them...



## Do BHs receive kicks?

NO

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YES

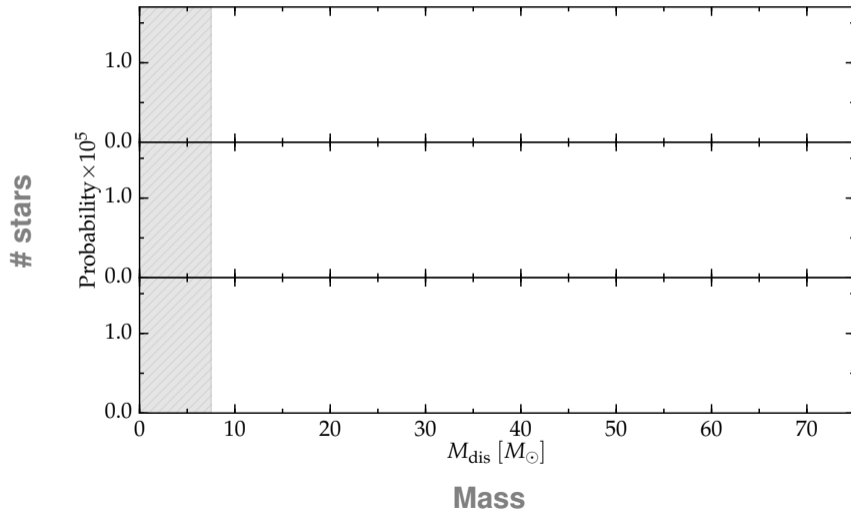
⇒ most are single and we can't see them...



...but we can see the  
“widowed” companions

## BH kicks by weighting the companions

Massive runaways mass function ( $v \geq 30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ,  $M \geq 7.5 M_{\odot}$ )

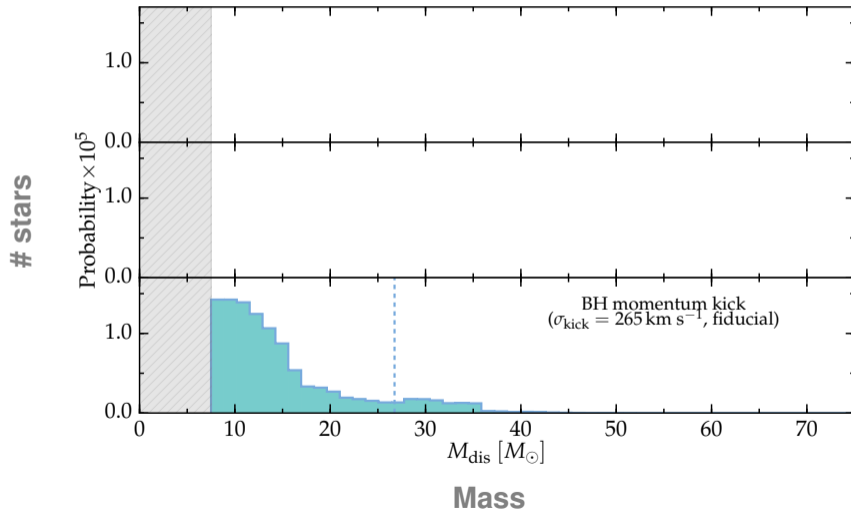


Numerical results publicly available at::

<http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/qcat?J/A+A/624/A66>

# BH kicks by weighting the companions

Massive runaways mass function ( $v \geq 30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ,  $M \geq 7.5 M_{\odot}$ )

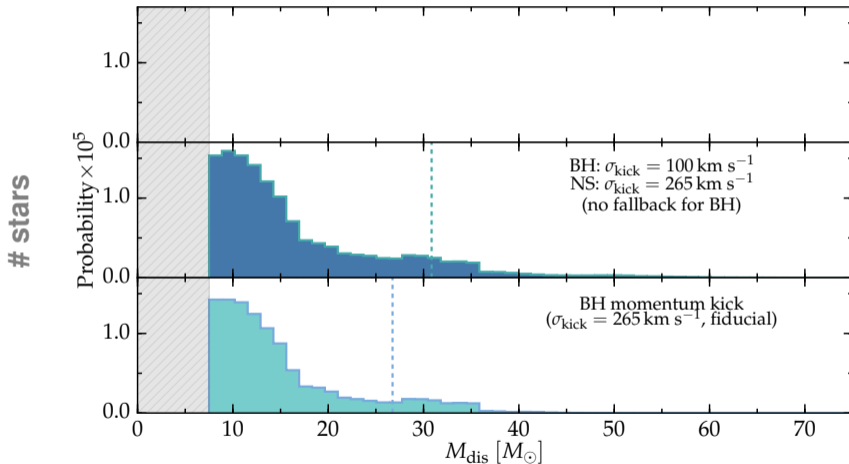


Numerical results publicly available at::

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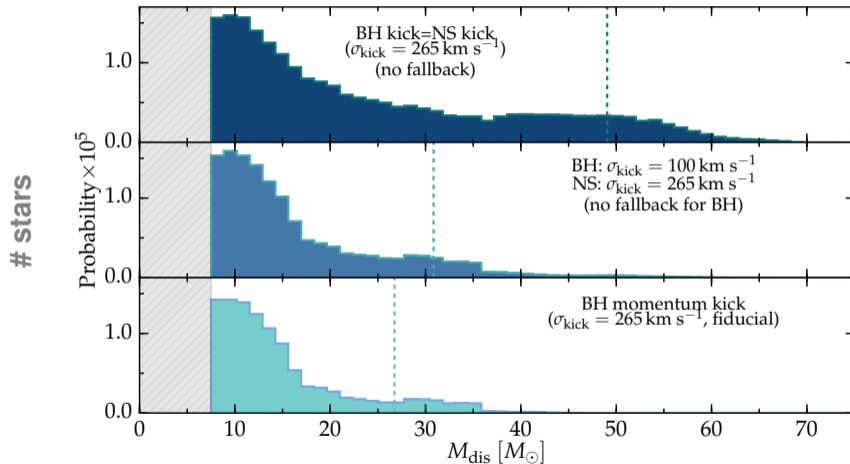
Mass

Numerical results publicly available at::

<http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/qcat?J/A+A/624/A66>

# BH kicks by weighting the companions

Massive runaways mass function ( $v \geq 30 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ,  $M \geq 7.5 M_{\odot}$ )



**Mass**

Numerical results publicly available at::

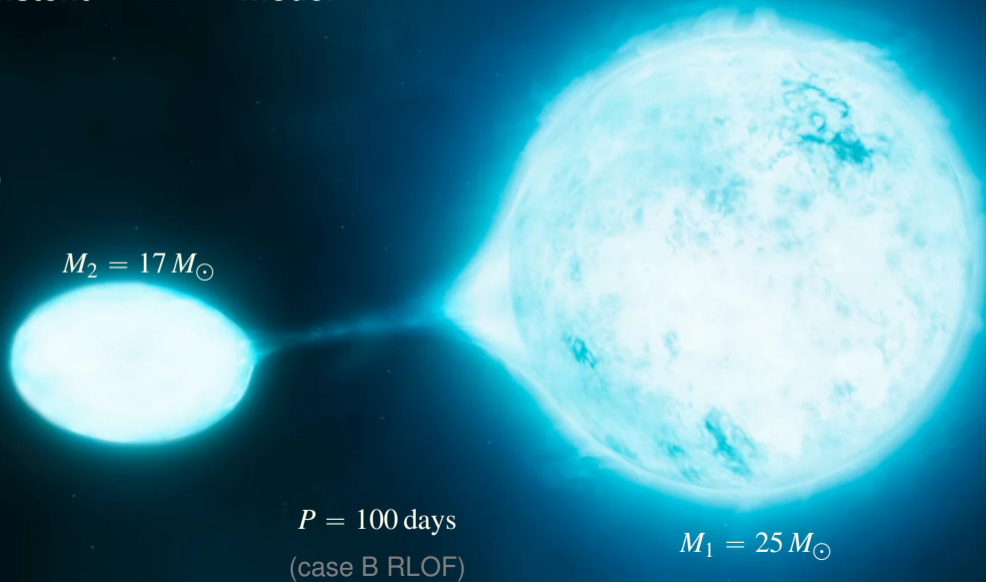
<http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/qcat?J/A+A/624/A66>

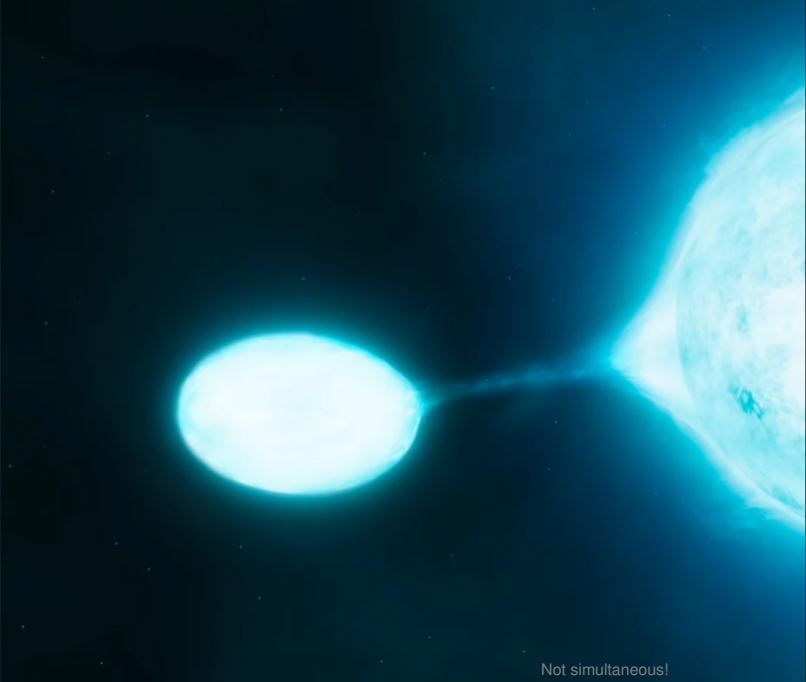


# Self-consistent MESA model

$Z = 0.01$

(Murphy *et al.* 2021)





Not simultaneous!





Not simultaneous!





# Does a binary past help with $\zeta$ Oph. ?

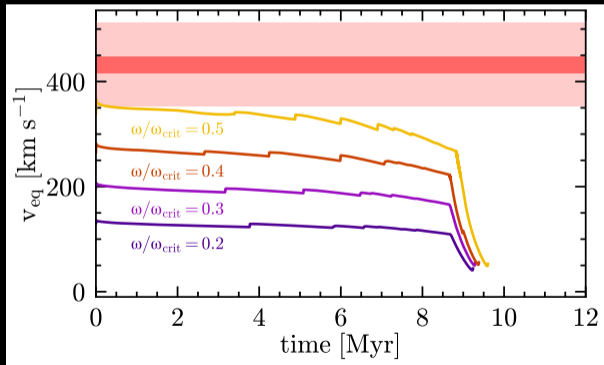
Spin-up – Pollution – Rejuvenation

Renzo & Götberg 2021



## **X Spin up:**

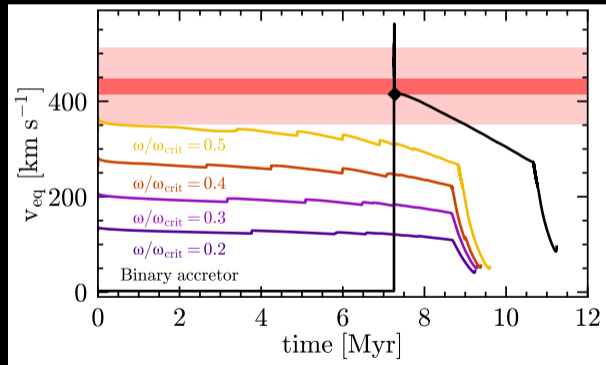
Natal rotation would need to be extreme to match



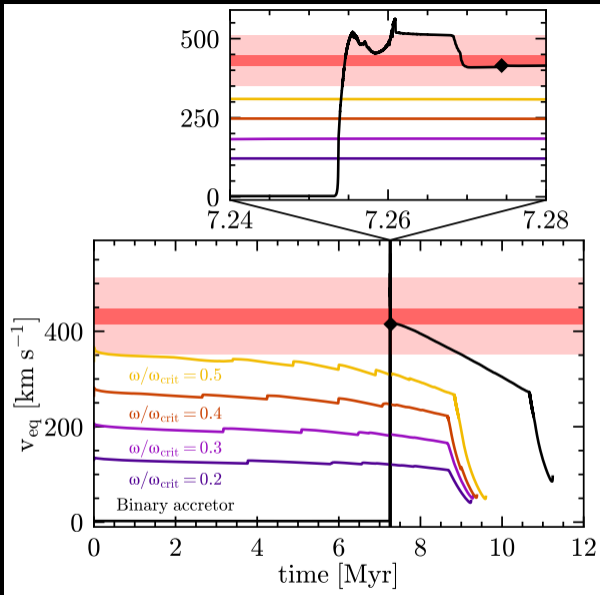
weak-wind problem, neglecting inclination



✓ **Spin up:**  
late and to critical rotation



weak-wind problem, neglecting inclination

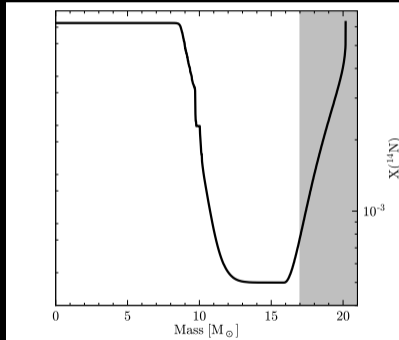


weak-wind problem, neglecting inclination



## ✓ Pollution:

Surface composition partly comes from the donor's core



Nitrogen mass fraction

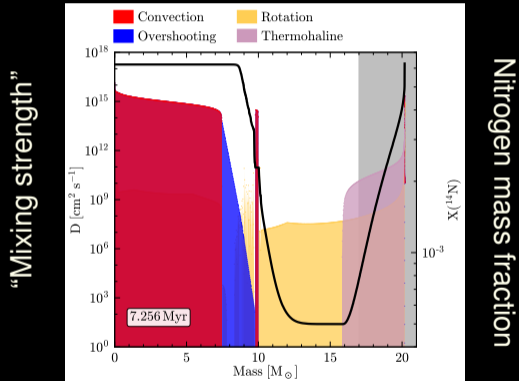
Joint constrain on accretion and internal mixing





## ✓ Pollution:

Surface composition partly comes from the donor's core

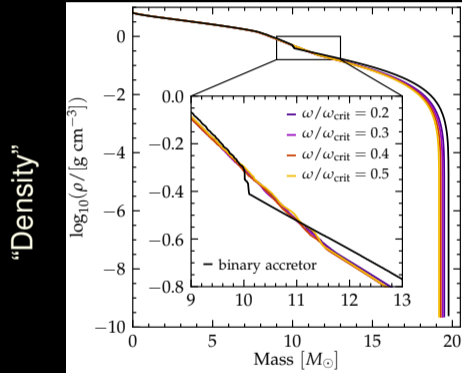


Joint constrain on accretion and internal mixing



## ✓ Rejuvenation:

Core growth changes its outer boundary



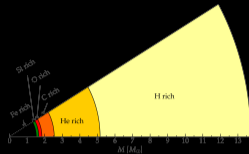
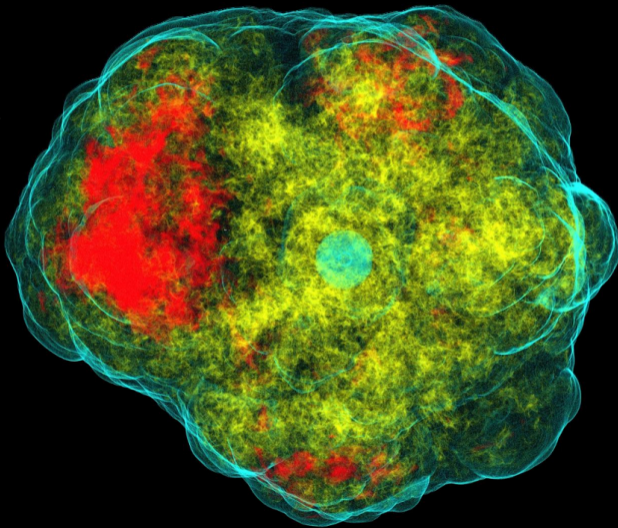
end of H-core burning,

later evolution amplifies differences

(e.g., Renzo *et al.* 2017)

# Asymmetries in the explosion cause the “kick”

- $\nu$ -driven convection
- rotation
- hydrodynamical flow



# Asymmetries in the explosion cause the “kick”

